

Mr. Wilbourn spends part of his days below a shade tree besides the Fred's Dollars Store parking lot. His truck bed overflows with cabbage, string beans, bundles of kale, bags of okra, and baskets of tomatoes and peppers.

Mr. Wilbourn grows all of the produce himself on a 5-acre fraction of his 100-acre farm that's nearby. On his property, two high tunnels stand in stark contrast to the surrounding straight lines of pines and the row crops of area farms.

Mr. Wilbourn is a part of the Delta Fresh Family and was inspired by his wisdom and love for his community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Frank Wilbourn for his dedication in being a remarkable farmer.

WE CAN WIN THE WAR ON
POVERTY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 50th Anniversary of President Lyndon Johnson's declaration of the "unconditional war on poverty." The question we must now ask is whether we will continue to fight to win the war on poverty or whether we will allow those who would rather wage war on the poor themselves carry the day.

No one can argue that we have won the war on poverty. We have only to look at the nearly 50 million Americans who are living below the official poverty line—including more than 16 million children. But we can argue—and should do so vigorously—against those who call the war on poverty a failure and want to raze its very foundation.

The war on poverty was based on the idea that we should make sure every American has access to a good education, economic opportunity, sufficient food, housing and health care to climb out of poverty, reach their full potential, and contribute to the economic strength of our country.

Consider what life would be like without Medicare and Medicaid, Head Start and college assistance, food stamps (now the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Jobs Corps and expanded unemployment insurance benefits, and Section 8 housing. How would we protect Americans in economically trying times without them?

Researchers tell us they make a difference. The EITC lifts six million Americans—half of them children—out of poverty, and SNAP does the same for almost five million people—also almost half of whom are children. In 2011, Medicaid kept almost 3 million Americans out of poverty. Unemployment insurance has kept 11 million people out of poverty since 2008. Without programs that help reduce poverty, almost twice as many Americans—nearly 30 percent—would live below the poverty line.

Are these programs perfect? No. Are there ways we can improve them? Of course, and many of us have been working to do so—to add new tools to lower prescription drug costs and eliminate fraud, to improve education by providing universal pre-K and making college more affordable, and to create jobs that will help the unemployed find work.

What we cannot do is follow the Republican Budget Proposal—which would give the average millionaire a \$245,000 tax cut and pay for that by gutting SNAP funding, slashing education funding, cutting infrastructure investments, voucherizing Medicare, and cutting Medicaid by more than \$800 billion over the next decade. Aside from my moral opposition to cutting those vital priorities, there is an economic reason: cutting them will hurt economic growth by preventing low-income Americans an opportunity to succeed and to contribute to our economic growth.

Instead, we should commit to strengthening the programs that have contributed to a reduction in poverty. Rather than cutting off unemployment insurance for 1.3 million Americans—and costing our economy more than 200,000 jobs in the process—we should extend the program so that those struggling to find work have the support they deserve in a time of need. Rather than weakening our education system, we should invest in universal pre-K and provide affordable student loans so that all students have a fair shot. Rather than cutting SNAP, we should restore the Recovery Act's boost to the program and ensure that it has adequate resources to prevent hunger in this country. Rather than cutting Section 8 and other housing assistance programs, we should make it our goal to ensure that everyone has a safe place to live. Rather than ending the guarantee of Medicare, we should ensure that it is strong and that our seniors have the health care they need and deserve. Rather than allowing workers to be paid less—in real terms—than at any time since the 1960s, we should commit to raising the minimum wage so that employment will mean escaping poverty.

Those investments, and others, can be made by asking the wealthiest Americans to contribute a little more and by closing loopholes that allow American corporations to avoid their fair share in taxes. Those policies do not represent "class warfare," they represent reality: if we are to end poverty, we need to invest in our people. In fact, I believe that what truly constitutes class warfare is the gutting of programs and policies that prevent poverty. If we make needed investments in preventing and reducing poverty, we will have an even stronger workforce, a more sound economy, and a brighter future for every American.

PATSY MUNDELL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Patsy Mundell for her outstanding service and commitment to our community.

Patsy Mundell is Division Chief and a 28-year veteran of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. Recognized by her peers as an innovator of inmate management and program development, Patsy implemented successful inmate education and mental health programs. She has also reformed ADA policies regarding inmates and developed video visitation in the jail. In addition to her advocacy for women in law enforcement, Patsy Mundell mentors indi-

viduals within the organization on career goals and promotions. As a Metro State University graduate, she is also a mentor for the Metro State Women's Basketball team.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Patsy Mundell for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM T. DWYER
HIGH SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William T. Dwyer High School in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida for their victory in the 7A State title game. In a well contested battle at the Citrus Bowl in Orlando, the Dwyer Panthers defeated Niceville High School 55–39 to win their second State football championship.

Panther's coach Jack Daniels took his team to the title game with a perfect 15–0 record, the school's first undefeated season. After 15 consecutive playoff appearances, Dwyer High School can now call themselves repeat State champions in football, and I am honored to recognize them today.

Throughout the football season, these student-athletes balanced the pressures of both academics and football. As student-athletes across the country, myself included, can tell you, this is a challenge that tests one's patience and perseverance, and I commend the team for their successes in the classroom as well as on the field.

The Dwyer Panthers handled themselves with class in front of thousands of fans on a big stage. I hope all of the players, faculty, and parents who showed their support continue to enjoy the school's rank of 2013–2014 7A football champions for the State of Florida. I wish all of the graduating seniors the best in their future academic and athletic endeavors. To those returning next season, continue to work hard and take pride in everything you do. Congratulations again to the 2013–2014 Dwyer Panthers.

EXPIRATION OF THE FEDERAL UN-
EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PRO-
GRAM

HON. ALBIO SIREs

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my serious concern about the expiration of the federal unemployment insurance program for more than 1.3 million Americans, including more than 90,000 hard working people in New Jersey. At a time when so many Americans are still struggling to recover from one of the greatest periods of economic downturn in our nation's history, it is unconscionable to me that Congress would fail to stand behind those who need our support the most right now.

The emergency federal unemployment insurance program was signed by President

George W. Bush and took effect in 2008. Despite clear economic progress since then, more than four million Americans have been out of work for six months or longer. These are hard working Americans who are now struggling to pay their bills and feed their families.

Yesterday, our colleagues in the Senate took an important first step toward extending the unemployment insurance program for an additional three months. I urge our leadership in the House to allow a similar vote so that the federal government can again provide vital relief for people who worked hard, played by the rules, but at no fault of their own have lost their jobs.

I understand the need to bring our budget under control, but let us not do it on the backs of hardworking Americans. Let us not create even more uncertainty in their lives. Ending this lifeline for America's working families will not grow the economy and it will not balance our budget. Mr. Speaker, I call on you to bring an extension up for a vote today.

HONORING CATHY KIMBROUGH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mrs. Cathy Kimbrough. Mrs. Kimbrough has served adults and children in numerous capacities. Some of the service area include: reading instructor in Germany, General College reading instructor at Alcorn State University, and self-contained and inclusion teacher in the Attala County School District.

Mrs. Kimbrough has served her community as local president of the Attala County Association of Educators. Mrs. Kimbrough has also served on the Board of Directors for the Boys' and Girls' Club in Kosciusko/Attala County.

Mrs. Kimbrough is a member of the following organizations: Order of the Eastern Star, National Council of Negro Women, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. She is also a member of Pleasant Hill M.B. Church, pastored by Rev. Osie C. Grays.

Mrs. Kimbrough earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Jackson State University. She was a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and the Alpha Beta Alpha Library Science Fraternity.

She is married to Mr. Henry Kimbrough. She has four children: Jerry Jr. (Erica), Essence Crystal (Theodore), Sonja Merrie', and Joyanne' Faith; six grandchildren—Deontrez Jerrick, Jersia, Kamiah, Kayla and Shytianna. She enjoys creating song lyrics, writing poetry, reading and fishing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Cathy Kimbrough for her dedication to serving others in Attala County.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR ON POVERTY

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker. in his first State of the Union address on January 8, 1964, President Lyndon Baines Johnson declared an "unconditional war on poverty in America." Today, as a member of Congress and as a member of the Democratic Whip Task Force on Poverty and Opportunity, I join my colleagues to mark the 50th anniversary of this declaration and stand in solidarity to continue the fight against economic injustice.

The War on Poverty policy initiative introduced federal programs such as Head Start, Job Corps, Volunteers in Service to America, and legal services for the poor. It also strengthened America's safety net for poor through food stamps and expanding social security and healthcare programs, which American families, including those in my district of American Samoa, continue to benefit from today.

Our nation has made significant progress over the past half century. We have seen, for example, the percent of the population in poverty drop from 26% in 1967 to 16% in 2012. But the war has yet to be won. Today, poverty continues to plague our communities and Americans continue to suffer the effects of economic recession and long term unemployment.

As President Johnson declared 50 years ago today, "Our task is to help replace their despair with opportunity." Government can still play a crucial role in reducing hardship for Americans and increasing opportunities for families who struggle just to make ends meet. As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the War on Poverty, let us be resolved to continue the fight so that all Americans can have the opportunity to attain the American dream.

SONYA ESTES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sonya Estes for her outstanding service to our community.

Sonya is dedicated to the health and fitness of her community. For over nine years she has promoted the sport of running and its opportunities for community involvement. She was recognized by Jefferson County Public Schools for her support of cross-country and track events, and she sponsors middle school and high school races and Girls on the Run. As the owner of Lakewood's Runners Roost Sonya has opened up her store as a lecture and event location for local charities including Team Challenge, the Alzheimer's Association of Colorado and the American Lung Association of Colorado. She also donated thousands of recycled shoes to the More Foundation. Working with the City of Lakewood Parks and Recreation she contributes to the Lakewood Trail Running Series and the Bear Creek Grin

and Bear It. Sonya doesn't walk the talk . . . she runs it!

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sonya Estes for her well-deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING WILLIE COOPER'S CAREER OF SERVICE

HON. VANCE M. McALLISTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. McALLISTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the impressive career of service of Willie F. Cooper. Not long ago, Willie marked 40 years of serving as the State Executive Director of the Louisiana Farm Service Agency and now has a total of over 56 years of work with USDA.

Willie began his career with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) while he was still in college and began working his way up the ranks until he was eventually appointed the State Executive Director in April 1972, a role he has held ever since. During his career, Willie has distinguished himself by working tirelessly for the farmers of the state of Louisiana while remaining the approachable family man inherent in his humble roots. These attributes have led him to be named "Progressive Farmers' Man of the Year" and to be honored by the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation with their Distinguished Service Award.

As impressive as his career has been, his service to his community and his dedication to his family has been equally as impressive. He is an active member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Alexandria, a member of the MacArthur Drive Lions Club, and holds a lifetime membership in the Louisiana Lions League for Crippled Children.

So, please join me in recognizing and honoring this great civil servant. His life and career should serve as an inspiration to all who seek to better their community and state.

HONORING MR. GEORGE "BOOMER" SCOTT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of baseball's greatest contributors to the game, Mr. George "Boomer" Scott. His attitude and stature did determine his altitude.

Mr. George "Boomer" Scott knew pick'n cotton was not all he could do. The Jim Crow south prepared him for the challenges and opportunities that would be forthcoming. And his ability to tackle any task and meet any challenge was a "God given talent." Many wanted him, the University of Oklahoma, University of California in Los Angeles, Michigan State University, and Jackson State University.

In May 1962, Red Sox scout Ed Scott, recognized that God given talent and signed